

**DEPARTMENT OF
ENGINEERING,
PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES
MANAGEMENT**

2023 Budget Presentation

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE				
Description	2022 Adopted Budget	2022 Modified Budget	2022 Expenditures	2023 Budget Request
Salaries & Wages	66,863	66,863	66,862.56	67,659
Other Expenses	9,700	9,700	8,640.91	9,700
Total	76,563	76,563	75,503.47	77,359

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

Bureau of Engineering: Projects in 2022 including the 2022 Road Resurfacing program of approximately 18.5 miles in 14 municipalities. Work also continued on the traffic signal project at the intersection of Lambert's Mill Road and Rahway Avenue in Westfield, and was completed at the intersection of River Road, Chatham Road and Miele Place in Summit. Bridge projects were completed at Short Hills Culvert in Springfield and East Hazelwood Bridge in Rahway. The Gordon Street Bridge was demolished in Roselle/Roselle Park and the new bridge esd started.

Facilities Projects included the start of the new Public Safety Dispatch Center and the completion of the stairway tower project in the County Court House building.

Park Projects included the Stream Bank Stabilization Project at Route 22 Park in Scotch Plains, the paving of paths at Rahway River Park in Rahway and the preliminary engineering kick off to 15 new parks projects throughout the County ranging from small improvements to major turf field renovations.

Bureau of Geographic Information Systems: The Bureau maintained, managed and supported the county-wide asset management system which includes over 20,000 assets and over 100 users. Maintained, managed and supported School Crisis Mitigation system with 230 schools and over 400 law enforcements users a key infrastructure piece that assists our municipal partners in keeping schools safe. Maintained, managed and supported the County's GIS public website with 4,000 local certified tax map sheet, sex offender database and supported several staff members within the Prosecutor's office who require access to our data. Created GIS maps and supported GIS operations for 21 municipal partners and kept the parcel layer with 160,000 parcels up to date. Supported and maintained Board of Election maps, road resurfacing maps, road sign database with 20,000 signs, county road video logs and county park asset. Supported and managed over 150 computers within the PW Department, including upgrade and troubleshooting. Finally, the Bureau launched a new feature to its wide array of services to include an electronic drone to capture of any necessary sites, surveys or specific locations requested.

Bureau of Traffic Safety and Maintenance: Conducted traffic control design and implementation for over 20 miles of road during 2022 Annual Resurfacing operations. Conducted numerous Traffic Count Studies for the County and its municipal partners. Upgraded numerous Pedestrian Crosswalks signs and over 300 other warning and streets signs improving pedestrian safety and driver awareness. Assisted our municipal partners via our Mutual Aide/Shared Services Program with over \$11,000.00 of pavement markings, signage and vehicle graphics. Supported County Parks Department with numerous sign installations, pavement marking upgrades, event banner installations, Deer Management sign installations and land encroachment signs. Supported County Police with signs, pavement markings and vehicle graphics. Supported annual Infrastructure Municipal Aid Grant program with sign installations at specific locations. Provided consultations and general information or responses to County Counsel Office related to depositions, interrogatories regarding tort claims or law suits related to traffic incidents. The Bureau also continued updating sign inventory within the County GIS system.

2023 GOALS & INITIATIVES

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

Bureau of Engineering: The Bureau anticipates the 2023 road resurfacing program to include 12 miles of roadway repaving in 10 Municipalities; Traffic Signal Projects at three intersections on W. Seventh Street in Plainfield; the completion of the Gordon Street Bridge Project in Roselle/Roselle Park, the start of the Irving Street Bridge Project in Rahway, Lower Road Minor Bridge in Linden, Central Avenue Bridge in Rahway and Randolph Road Bridge in Plainfield. Parks and Recreation and Facilities projects will also be executed.

The Bureau will also seek to improve the project specifications for the annual paving program to make the program more efficient and timely along with seeking potential traffic safety improvements with our 21 municipal partners via various traffic studies and a potential Safe Streets and Roads for All grant, if awarded.

Bureau of Geographic Information Systems: The Bureau will continue to maintain, manage and support the county wide asset management system while adding additional vital assets and increasing its usage by promoting additional users to the system. The Bureau will continue to manage the School Crisis Mitigation system which include over 400 law enforcement users. The GIS public website will continue to house over 4000 certified tax maps, drug free zone maps and sex offender database information for the UC Prosecutors Office all of which need to be maintained constantly. We will continue to support several staff members of the Prosecutors office on using the system and data, to create GIS maps and support GIS operations. The Bureau will continue to assist our 21 municipal partners and keep the parcel layer which includes over 160,000 properties up to date. Support and maintain Board of Election maps, road resurfacing maps, Road Sign database which includes over 20,000 signs, County roadway video logs and County park assets. Support and manage over 150 computers within the Engineering, Public Works & Facilities Management Department including upgrades and daily troubleshooting. We will actively capture more drone footage to help with various county projects. In addition, we will capture video footage of the county roads showing current conditions using the 'Go Pro' camera. Uploading pending drawings to the new Paper Vision system and train all employees in the system.

Bureau of Traffic Safety and Maintenance: The Bureau anticipates applying approximately 45 linear miles of needed roadway line striping and continually maintaining the line striping machine. We plan to upgrade County route markers and pedestrian crosswalk signs to enhance public safety, as well as continuing to: maintain, replace or upgrade County roadway signs; acquire yearly traffic data for County roadways; provide mutual aid to our municipal partners; and assist all County Departments on their sign and graphics needs.

ENGINEERING				
Description	2022 Adopted Budget	2022 Modified Budget	2022 Expenditures	2023 Budget Request
Salaries & Wages	1,097,801	1,097,801	1,074,127.80	1,140,444
Overtime	10,000	10,000	4,884.66	8,000
Seasonal	8,500	8,500	-	8,500
Other Expenses	432,000	432,000	408,780.31	419,000
Total	1,548,301	1,548,301	1,487,792.77	1,575,944

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

UC Courthouse Tower– Fire Code Violation, Interior Stairwell Project: Project commenced in January 2020. Erection of the new Interior Stairwell and Fire Sprinkler System has been installed. Project has been completed.

UC Courthouse Tower: Converted the 9th through 15th Floors into useable Office space for the State and Credit Union.

Police Academy: Renovated a large section of the 2nd Floor into a Training Center and new Conference Room.

Echo Lake Park: Reconstructed a sagging barrier wall at the 911 Memorial.

Wheeler Spray Park: Installed Split HVAC System in the Pump Room.

Walter Ulrich Pool – Rahway River Park: Replaced many Concrete Slabs around Pool and installed over 150' of Concrete Walkways.

Madison Ave. Park: Installed Black/Red Concrete Slabs at Obstacle Course.

Bureau of Print Services

Processed 2,079 print/sign/paper requests from Nov. 3, 2021 – Nov. 3, 2022 for Union County and 28 Municipalities & non-profit agencies.

Printed over 3,563,269 impressions from Nov. 3, 2021 – Nov. 3, 2022.

Printed and assembled 204+ Banners from Nov. 3, 2021 – Nov. 3, 2022.

Invoiced \$32,861.65 from Nov. 3, 2021 – Nov. 3, 2022 to various Townships, non-profits and government agencies. Continued to research and utilize efficient and productive equipment including the recent implementation of an automated grommet machine and banding machine. Researching new vendors and cost effective materials for signs, banners and printing in spite of the ongoing supply chain issues. Successfully coordinated equipment move to the new layout at the Fire Academy Building in Linden (2021). Assisted in negotiating the cost of this move for an estimated savings of \$60K+.

Upgrading design and production software to keep an efficient workflow.

Secured and implementing the new digital print submission system.

2023 GOALS & INITIATIVES

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

New Annex Courthouse: Replacement of the entire Roof; Asbestos Abatement and Installation of Fire Sprinkler System on the 2nd Floor; Modernization of the existing three (3) Elevators.

Administration Building: Replacement of the existing aging and outdated Main Entrance/Exit Doors will commence.

UC Courthouse: Replacement of the Entrance/Exit Doors at rear (Atrium) entrance will commence.

UC Parking Garage: Existing Parking Garage will be demolished and replaced with a new Parking Deck.

Parks Restrooms: Renovation of Public and Employee restrooms will continue.

Bureau of Administrative Support: Continue the implementation of the XMPie ordering system. Plans to integrate sign shop work orders into XMPie. Open the storefront to three departments as a test run before full implementation. Purchase a new high speed digital envelope printer. Modernize our business card capabilities with new equipment. Acquire a wide format scanner for large sign requests.

Various County Locations: Modernization of Fire Alarm Panels, Smoke Detection and Fire Sprinkler Systems will continue.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT				
Description	2022 Adopted Budget	2022 Modified Budget	2022 Expenditures	2023 Budget Request
Salaries & Wages	7,853,566	7,603,566	6,775,300.17	7,941,331
Overtime	200,000	200,000	173,592.62	190,000
Seasonal	12,000	12,000	9,985.00	12,000
Other Expenses	8,389,750	8,389,750	8,116,144.67	8,577,500
Total	16,455,316	16,205,316	15,075,022.46	16,720,831

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Bureau of Roads & Bridges: In 2022 the Bureau filled and repaired in hundreds of potholes. Minor and major road surface repairs and preventive maintenance were completed throughout the county. Repairs to related infrastructure on county roadways were performed such as sink holes and storm line failures. The County's 340 lane miles of roadway were swept approximately twice per month as per our Sweeping Schedule. Vegetation maintenance was performed as required. The County's 4,564 inlets and catch basins were cleaned and or inspected twice per year, as scheduled. Repairs were made as required. Union County's 386 bridges and culvers were inspected and maintained as needed. Beam Guide Rail was repaired as needed. Weather related events including snow & ice were managed, staffed and tackled during and following each occurrence. There were approximately 500 tasks completed related to snow and ice removal during this time frame.

During County sponsored recycling events, the Bureau provides assistance through personnel and equipment. Assistance was provided to the Office of the County Clerk with hauling records to the incinerator from various agencies and municipalities throughout the County. Assistance was also provided to the County Police in hauling confiscated drugs to the incinerator for destruction.

The Welding Shop performed fabrication projects included Park Maintenance, Public Safety, Bureau of Shade Tree & Conservation, Bureau of Heavy Equipment and Truck Repair as well as repairs and modification to DPW Equipment.

The Bureau assisted the Bureau of Shade Tree & Conservation with personnel and equipment for the Leaf Compost Facility in Springfield, including receiving leaves and related materials for composting, forming windrows, and turning as required.

Routine inspections and preventive maintenance and priority repairs of bridges, culverts and parapets were conducted throughout the county. Graffiti removal was performed at various locations. Priority repairs are evaluated, scheduled and repaired via reports from DOT, Consulting Engineers and supervising staff of the Bureau.

The Bureau completed over 2,500 work requests in 2022 including services and mutual aid to all Divisions, Agencies and Municipalities. Approximately 2,000 tons of asphalt were used for Roads & Bridge Maintenance and Repairs and Mutual Aid requests. The Bureau also provided personnel and equipment to multiple pandemic related projects including COVID-19 test sites and vaccination call centers, as well as Food Drives.

Bureau of Inspections: In 2022 the Bureau issued 552 roads and curb permits, collected \$168,051.90 in permit fees and \$202,400.75 in refundable bond fees, for a total of \$370,452.65. The Bureau also provided continuous monitoring of curb installations, and roadway and right-of-way excavations to ensure restoration and compliance with county specifications, and provided personnel for snow removal.

In addition to Roads & Bridges Inspectors, the Bureau personnel also include the Department's Safety Coordinator, who scheduled safety programs to ensure compliance with Local, Federal and State regulations. Examples of these regulations are: OSHA and Hazcom Right to Know Compliance, Commercial Driver's Licensing, CDL Medical Certifications, Storm Water Management, and Work Zone Safety. We now do tool box talk monthly.

Examples of in house training included: chainsaw, forklift, backhoe and bucket truck operations, fire extinguisher, ladder usage, and proper flagging techniques. Reporting and recording of employee injuries and motor vehicle accidents also fall under this Bureau. Other safety training added in 2018 included slip and fall precautions, lifting techniques, PPE and defensive training.

Bureau of Shade Tree & Conservation: Each year, the Bureau plants 150 trees throughout the County along County roadways. This is done yearly due to the amount of trees that were removed due to decay or as a result of storm damage.

To date the Shade Tree Bureau has completed most of the work orders from last year and is focused on outstanding complaints. We are focused on removing all dead and dying trees along County roads and in the parks, including approximately 300 trees in the parks. There have been more than 700 trees removed due to safety and over 1,000 trees have been trimmed, mainly identified through requests from the public as well as county personnel.

This year, the Bureau completed a large request for tree trimming and removal in Scotch Plains, Elizabeth, Plainfield, Cranford, Clark and Roselle Park. The Bureau also continues to work with PSEG and Jersey Central Power & Light electric companies on tree removal. This year a few hundred trees were lost due to the Asian Longhorn Beetle.

The Shade Tree Bureau also provided aide to Summit, Mountainside, Roselle, Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Roselle in removing large trees and hanging branches. The Bureau also loaned equipment to assist municipalities.

The Bureau also completed work in several parks as requested by Park supervisors, including Cedar Brook, Echo Lake and Rahway River.

Bureau of Mosquito Control: Mosquito Control completed 70 tasks related to ditch maintenance and 106 tasks for Drainage maintenance prior to the start of our surveillance and treating season. The mosquito surveillance season began March 1. To date, we had 3 human cases of West Nile Virus reported in Union County and 2 Dengue Fever cases (travel history). EEE was not detected in any samples submitted by Union County to the NJ State PHEL labs for virus testing. Our Bureau submitted 16 different weekly portable trappings at locations in our data base, collected 12,830 mosquitoes, identified and encapsulated 220 pools for testing. Those pools were tested for 5 different viruses carried by mosquitos. (WNV, EEE, SLE, JCV & Dengue Fever) and we had 41 positive pools of mosquitos for W.N.V. This season was monitored by twenty three semi-permanent New Jersey light traps for tends and populations. Our Inspectors also were active with our WNV surveillance. They performed 15 Gravid trap runs. All 21 municipalities in Union County had at least one portable trap sent for virus testing with all having at least one positive WNV pool. The Inspectors performed 931 NJ light trap runs during the 2022 season. U.C. Bureau of Mosquito Control currently has over 959 identified and cataloged sites registered with the NJ PHEL Labs in Ewing Township, NJ.

This Bureau handled 225 complaints for 2022. There were 457 spray locations during 44 adulticiding operations during evening hours to control adult populations of mosquitoes. There were 2,247 tasks completed for 2022. This includes the work the inspectors do on a daily basis to control breeding at the source in several locations throughout Union County where standing water cannot be eliminated.

The Bureau has offered “Barrier” treatment for problem yards of individual home sites, using a backpack blower that sprays a mist of a barrier pesticide that dries down in an hour and leaves a residue that can provide active mosquito control for up to 12 days. The Bureau has received positive feedback with the results, but due to staffing levels, we had to reduce our Barrier treatment program for 2022 season.

Our office staff attended outreach venues in order to educate the public to the health risks and public nuisance of mosquitoes and how to prevent breeding of them.

Union County Mosquito Control continues to successfully employ the use of I-Pads in all of our work orders on Cartegraph. Our IT also includes NJSURV, a mosquito software system for entering all of the submissions for virus testing and includes all of the data for New Jersey. The PHEL labs use this system.

Bureau of Heavy Equipment & Truck Repair: There were 792 repair Work Orders including repair of in-house work. The Bureau has also made repairs to equipment for towns within Union County. This year two mechanics attend vehicle scanner training provided by Snap-on Tools and two mechanics attended sweeper training provided by Timmerman Equipment. Our Department will expand our ability diagnose and repair our current fleet of vehicles and equipment. The staff of technicians will be updated by means of either classroom or online training in order to keep up with current and future vehicle technology.

Bureau of Recycling and Planning: In 2022 the Bureau launched the first countywide film recycling program in the State of New Jersey, in which plastic film is collected from various municipalities, consolidated at the County Public Works facility in Scotch Plains, and taken to the Newark firm Direct Waste for baling (Elizabeth uses its own roll-off container), and prepared the material to be sent to the Virginia firm Trex, a leading producer of decking and other outdoor items from recycled plastic film.

The Bureau also conducted outreach, information gathering and site visits to all 21 municipalities, in preparation of a new Recycling Directory that will provide residents and businesses with easy access to information on recycling markets, recycling how-to’s, and environmental solutions, with the goal of improving municipal recycling rates.

The Pumpkin Recycling Program was brought back in 2022. Elizabeth, Berkeley Heights, and Westfield partnered with the County to provide drop-off locations for residents to drop off pumpkins for recycling. These pumpkins will be converted to green energy through the Waste Management CORE facility in Elizabeth. This year, the program was extended to November 28, in order to maximize the number of pumpkins diverted from the UCUA incinerator. The County’s program was publicized through The Star-Ledger/nj.com, TapInto, RecycleCoach and through County advertising channels. We recycled 6.94 tons of pumpkins in 2022, an increase of 1.69 tons from 2021.

The Clean Communities Program was reinvigorated following a hiatus due to COVID-19, with the hiring of an Environmental Specialist 1. Through October 31, 2022, the Program assisted with 27 cleanups involving participants who worked a total of 74.5 hours, and collected 500.75 bags of litter and 59 bags of recyclables. A total of 236.53 acres and 10.602 road miles were cleaned.

Recycling in Union County Parks: In collaboration with Parks staff and the Rutgers Cooperative Extension Environmental Stewards Program, the Bureau is creating and distributing recycling brochures and posters in English and Spanish to all park kiosks, adding a statement about separating recyclable materials from trash to all permit applications, and installing uniform, easily identifiable recycling bins at all 36 parks. Plans include purchasing a pickup truck dump body liner for easier collection. The Bureau will help support these efforts with grant money from Recycling Enhancement Act (REA) grant funds.

Compliance Assistance: With the COVID- 19 pandemic becoming less of an issue, our Recycling Program Aide was able to do compliance inspections for businesses, schools, and other entities. A new vehicle was also purchased for our Aide with REA grant funds, and we are looking to purchase new work boots and a camera.

Styrofoam Recycling: Nine towns continue to participate, with bins, bags and educational brochures and signs were provided by the County in 2019. The County maintains a relationship with Foam Pack Industries, which recycles the foam collected by the County's municipal partners. More than 50,800 pounds of EPS foam were recycled in 2021.

Recycle Coach: Union County continues to support all 21 municipalities and their residents for use of the Recycle Coach app. County staff and Municipal Recycling Coordinators continue to communicate and meet with representatives from Recycle Coach to optimize the user experience, including free educational tools.

Communication with Municipalities: The Bureau has focused on communications with the Municipal Recycling Coordinators, including multiple meetings with presentations, multiple emails weekly.

The New Jersey "Bag Ban:" The Bureau assisted in public awareness campaigns, including the purchase and distribution of 7,925 reusable shopping bags (from 6/8/21 through 11/2/22) and ban-related educational materials at county and municipal events. The Bureau also purchased and distributed metal reusable straws. All materials were purchased with Clean Communities funds.

Countywide Recycling Collection Events: Event and tonnage data for the 2022 recycling events are as follows:

Mobile Paper Shredding – Union County sponsored 13 shredding events in 2022 with 7,211 residents participating and bringing 238,825 pounds of confidential documents for shredding. Union County's local government document destruction program also assisted six County offices and eight non-County government entities in shredding their confidential documents. We also began a new contract with a new vendor, IDS AutoShred. REA grant funds were used to cover all costs for both the resident and office shredding programs.

Household Hazardous Waste – Union County sponsored five household waste events in 2022 with 3,449 participants disposing of 190,585 pounds of hazardous wastes and universal wastes. REA grant funds covered all costs. The vendor for the events is Radiac Environmental, Inc.

Mercury Thermostat and Smoke Detector Collection – Radiac took over thermostat and smoke detector collection at the household hazardous waste events, improving the flow of traffic for participants.

Fluorescent Bulbs – To date in 2022, 23,400 feet of straight fluorescent bulbs were collected and recycled at nine municipal drop-off sites, along with 549 u-shaped and compact bulbs for a total weight of 4.58 tons. The bulbs are sent to AERC/ Clean Venture for recycling. The costs are paid for through Recycling Enhancement Act (REA) grants. Bulbs were also collected at the County's five Household Hazardous Waste events.

Tires and Propane Tanks – A total of 483 tires and 235 propane tanks were collected at the Household Hazardous Waste events in 2022.

Scrap Metal –The Bureau of Recycling managed bi-monthly scrap metal collection programs from April thru November at two drop-off locations in Cranford and Rahway, collecting 97,300 pounds of scrap metal to date.

Motor Oil/Filters: As of October 31, 2022, Union County successfully recycled 11,270 gallons of used motor oil and 3,600 pounds of spent oil filters (to date) via 15 municipal drop off locations as part of our Motor Oil and Filter Recycling Program. There was additional motor oil accepted at our Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) events.

Electronics Recycling – Union County continues to provide free electronics drop-off at 17 municipal locations for e-waste covered by state regulations. The amount collected through October 31, 2022 was 491,559 pounds. Our vendor, MRM, notes that devices are evolving to become lighter, meaning that the weight collected in future years may hold steady or become lower, even as more devices are brought for recycling.

2023 GOALS & INITIATIVES

PUBLIC WORKS

Bureau of Roads & Bridges: The goals for the Bureau is to have employees attend driver and operator safety courses specific to equipment used and tasks performed within the department as well as obtaining additional training specific to asphalt projects.

The Bureau is also seeking approval from the Department of Environmental Protection for a potential milling and paving project within Meisel Park.

The Bureau's in-house paving program will provide Mutual-Aid Milling and Resurfacing services to various Municipalities, Departments and County facilities prioritized as requested through County departments. Requests submitted to the Bureau will commence on or about May 1, 2023.

Bureau of Inspections: The Bureau will continue to closely monitor all construction, maintenance, and repair being performed on County roads as it pertains to the proper permitting for curing, road openings, excavations and alterations, and continue to assure compliance with County specifications.

The Safety Coordinator will continue to do more conduct training in areas, and will continue to assure compliance with Local, Federal, and State regulations. The Bureau's goal is to become an injury and accident free workplace.

Bureau of Shade Tree & Conservation: The Bureau is looking into the Sponsor A Tree commemorative tree planting program. We hope to partner with five planting programs that work with Sponsor A Tree.

The Bureau is also looking to purchase new equipment to maximize our performance and productivity in getting work orders completed earlier and looking for a new system using iPad to put locations and conditions of trees. This new system would allow us to upload on site into a GPS system, to increase productivity, identify dead trees and classify work orders. We are looking to replace more trees going forward due to global warming, and increase education for the public.

The Bureau would like to change over from gas power to electric all saws, blowers and trucks. Employees of the Bureau will attend more safety classes which would include bucket safety, stump grinder, crane operations and chainsaw training.

Bureau of Mosquito Control: Mosquito control is an evolving science that requires this bureau to stay current with up to date science and technology, including qualified staff. Some vendors are changing their product line, so we will be seeking to keep an array of products that both continue effectiveness and avoid the possibility of resistance occurring in the insect population.

Bureau of Heavy Equipment & Truck Repair: The Bureau will focus on refurbishment and refreshing our fleet of older trucks and off road machinery, and extend the fleet lifespan with more comprehensive servicing, general repair, and maintenance, including improved corrosion protection.

Bureau of Recycling and Planning: The Bureau has multiple projects that we are looking to either initiate or improve upon in 2023. In conjunction with a Boys Scouts of America Eagle Scout candidate and the Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Park Environmental Services, the Bureau looks to revitalize its fishing line recycling program in 2023, with twelve fishing line recycling stations in the county. The Bureau is looking to increase/ expand its Trex film recycling program. We are looking to average more than one half of a ton per month of film to be recycled in 2023. The Bureau is looking to expand its educational opportunities for school students. We have been in contact with schools and are looking to educate students and staff about the world of recycling, composting and waste reduction. The Bureau is looking to potentially start an Adopt-a-Storm Drain program. This program has been successful in other parts of the country and will lead to less contamination going into our storm drains, which in turn will decrease the contamination going into our rivers and oceans. The Bureau is looking at expanding the locations of our recycling events. We will be having recycling events in two new locations this year (Berkeley Heights Municipal Complex and the Hillside Pool). The Bureau is looking to begin a training program for Public Works employees from various municipalities on how they can play a part in helping the County recycle better and keep their respective municipalities neat and clean. The Bureau is finally looking to put “pen to paper” in regard to our directory. We have been in discussion with the Office of Communication & Public Information regarding this project. The Bureau is looking to hold a compost bin sale for residents to purchase home composting units at a discounted rate (subsidized through Recycling Enhancement Act grant funds). The Bureau plans to include educational outreach programming in conjunction with the compost bin sale. The goals of this program would be to help improve the world of home composting in Union County and enhance the ability of residents to decrease their carbon footprint and the amount of waste that they generate, which goes to the UCUA incinerator (solid waste facility). Through the Clean Communities Program, our Bureau is working with the Department of Parks and Recreation to purchase and install seven bottle-filling stations in highly-trafficked locations in our parks. Six free-standing and one wall-mounted outdoor bottle-filling stations are in the process of being purchased through Clean Communities grant funds. Providing these stations will hopefully encourage the users of the parks to bring reusable water bottles, instead of single-use plastic bottles, which often end up as litter on the ground. We are also hoping to pilot a reusable grocery bag distribution program in partnership with the Township of Westfield and GOATOTE. Bureau staff have been participating in planning and strategizing meetings with other stakeholders throughout the state to discuss effective ways to collect excess reusable grocery bags from those that have too many, sanitize them, and have them redistributed to those in need, such as food banks and pantries. The Bureau will continue discussions with the Township of Westfield and GOATOTE to create a pilot program that can be replicated throughout Union County and the rest of the State. The Bureau is also looking to convert more of its materials into either bilingual or multi-lingual format to accommodate more of Union County’s population.

PUBLIC WORKS				
Description	2022 Adopted Budget	2022 Modified Budget	2022 Expenditures	2023 Budget Request
Salaries & Wages	2,464,467	2,464,467	1,821,696.21	2,477,698
Overtime	75,000	75,000	64,530.47	75,000
Other Expenses	51,200	51,200	51,036.55	50,200
Total	2,590,667	2,590,667	1,937,263.23	2,602,898